

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the pending application is respectfully requested on the basis of the following observations.

Claim 1-39 presently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,688,221 (Kaule).

The applicant submits that the Kaule patent is disqualified as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) since both the pending application and the Kaule patent were, at the time the invention of the pending application was made, owned by Giesecke and Devrient, GmbH.

The assignment of the pending application to Giesecke and Devrient, GmbH was recorded on July 1, 2002. A copy of the "Notice of Recordation of Assignment Document" is included herewith indicating that indeed the pending application is owned by Giesecke and Devrient, GmbH.

In view of these observations, a discussion as to the technical teachings of the Kaule patent is not considered necessary. As a result, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

It is thus respectfully submitted that the pending application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is kindly requested that each and every pending claim in the present application be allowed and the application be passed to issue.

Application No.: 10/069,116
Examiner: Monica Smith Carter
Art Unit: 3722

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the applicant's attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

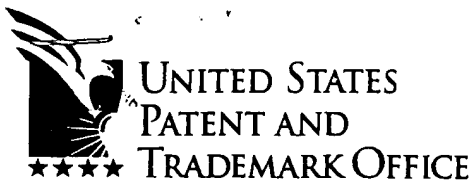
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1176
Phone: (703) 683-0500

Date: May 17, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin J. Cassell", written over a horizontal line.

JUSTIN J. CASSELL
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 46,205



**CORRECTED
NOTICE**

OCTOBER 24, 2002

PTAS

Under Secretary of Commerce For Intellectual Property and
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
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BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
J. ERNEST KENNEY
625 SLATERS LANE FOURTH FLOOR
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314



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RECORDATION DATE: 07/01/2002

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BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

ASSIGNOR:

SCHMITZ, CHRISTIAN

DOC DATE: 03/27/2002

ASSIGNEE:

GIESECKE & DEVRIENT GMBH
PRINZREGENSTRASSE 159
MUNCHEN; FED REP GERMANY 81677

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